

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/720,300

Examiner

Frances P. Oropeza

Applicant(s)

BRUNNER ET AL.

Art Unit

3762

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 11/17/04.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-12,14-18,23,24 and 27-34.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 12/22/00 (fig 2,3,5)& 7/21/04 (fig 1,4) are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☒ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☒ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date 12.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |

ALLOWANCE

Reasons for Allowance

1. Claims 1-12, 14-18, 23, 24 and 27-34 are allowed. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The subject matter of the independent claims could either not be found or was not suggested in the prior art.

In independent claims 1 and 14, the subject matter not found was a the miniature pressure generator secured directly to the cuff, in combination with the other elements of the claims.

In independent claims 31-34, the subject matter not found was an elastic band with a hook and loop fastener for securing the miniature pressure generator, in combination with the other elements of the claims.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Drawings

2. The proposed drawing corrections of figures 1 and 4, filed on 7/21/04, have been accepted. Proper drawing corrections or corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The correction to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

The application having been allowed, formal drawings of figures 1 and 4, including the labels for figure 1 - reference numerals 1, 2, 4 and 5 and labels for figure 4 - reference numerals

1, 2 and 24, are required in response to this Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The correction to the drawing will not be held in abeyance.

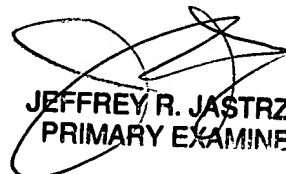
Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this or earlier communications from the Examiner should be directed to Fran Oropeza whose telephone number is (571) 272-4953. The Examiner can normally be reached on Monday – Friday from 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

If attempts to reach the Examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the Examiner's Supervisor, Angela D. Sykes can be reached on (571) 272-4955. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 872-9306 for regular communication and for After Final communications.

Frances P. Oropeza
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 3762

FPO
2/1/05


JEFFREY R. JASTRZAB
PRIMARY EXAMINER
3762
2/2/5